

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 106

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, on the success of its Zetas Helping Other People Excel initiative.

WHEREAS, on January 16, 1920, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, was founded on the campus of Howard University by five co-eds who sought to form an organization very different from the traditional coalitions of black women; and

WHEREAS, the sorority's founders, and those who have followed in their path, have striven to emulate the ideals and objectives of the Sorority, the first Greek-letter organization to charter a chapter in Africa; and

WHEREAS, today, Zeta's national and local programs include community outreach services, support of numerous affiliate organizations, and the endowment of its National Educational Foundation; and

WHEREAS, members of the Sorority's chapters, as well as its auxiliary groups, have given countless volunteer hours to public education initiatives, youth assistance programs, scholarship programs, charitable organizations, and lobbying efforts designed to promote positive social and civic change; and

WHEREAS, during the administration of the organization's twenty-second International President, Barbara C. Moore, Zeta adopted a new national and international service program designed to meet the critical social needs of Black Americans, as well as international women of color; and

WHEREAS, the Zetas Helping Other People Excel, or Z-HOPE, initiative is a holistic outreach program designed to empower participants to make health-promoting lifestyle choices

at each stage of their lives; it targets five major populations: women, youths, men, seniors, and international women of color; and

WHEREAS, in the eight hundred communities where Zeta chapters and affiliates are located, as well as in a select number of African villages, program participants address the prevalent health care issues of African Americans and international women of color; furthermore, the Z-HOPE action plan is based on the recognition that, in order to achieve such lofty goals, three essential elements of human life must be addressed simultaneously: mind, body, and spirit; and

WHEREAS, Z-HOPE addresses topics such as responsible sexual behavior, domestic violence, stress management, caregiving, estate planning, homeland security, disaster preparedness, and common physical illnesses that affect persons of color; and

WHEREAS, internationally, Z-HOPE programs include installing water wells, supplying rice for sustenance, providing basic supplies for those caring for AIDS patients, and encouraging literacy; and

WHEREAS, Zeta has placed thirty-five wells across Ghana in villages that did not previously have access to clean drinking water; currently, Zetas are building a health clinic at the Afua Kobi Ampem Girls Secondary School in Trabomum, Ghana; and

WHEREAS, the Z-Hope effort has enjoyed enormous support from the Zeta Phi Beta membership and its affiliated organizations; as of 2008, volunteers have donated nearly two hundred thousand hours of their time and over one-and-one-half million dollars. Funding for Z-HOPE international projects has reached nearly two hundred thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, for the March of Dimes, Zetas have raised nearly one million dollars; and

WHEREAS, given the enormous amount of time and resources Zeta Phi Beta members and affiliates have given to the Z-HOPE effort, there can be little doubt that the program is achieving genuine results; African Americans in the United States and women of color around the world are fortunate indeed to have the Zetas working to improve their lives through the Z-HOPE program; and

WHEREAS, the women of Zeta Phi Beta, and their affiliates, have demonstrated an unswerving commitment to the noble precepts of public service, and for their efforts they deserve special recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend the members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, on the success of their Zetas Helping Other People Excel initiative and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.